ENGL 3603.001: Engineering Communications

Dr. Adam Sneed

MW 12:40-2:05

This course teaches the fundamentals of technical communication with a focus on written and oral communications specific to the engineering domain. It embraces the idea that students learn best through practical, hands-on experience in real-world contexts. The course's central assignment is a semester-long service-learning project, the iFixit Technical Writing Project (Standard Project), where students work with their peers to create and publish an original, wiki-based troubleshooting manual for a real device. This service-learning project not only gives you an opportunity to learn essential on-the-job communication skills in an authentic engineering context. It also provides technical writing experience with a real client (iFixit) sure to enrich your job application materials and attract potential employers. Because writing in the modern workplace often entails collaboration, this course emphasizes the importance of accomplishing writing goals with your peers and will challenge you to re-imagine the writing process as a collaborative act coordinated through task management software like Microsoft Planner. The course also affords opportunities to develop important job application documents and even pursue your own research interests.